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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

80488

COUNTRY USSR/Lithuania

DATE:

INFO. Late 1946-January 1947

SUBJECT Employment Offered to German PW; Use of
PWs against Lithuanian Partisans

DIST. JUNE 1947

PAGES

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1. [redacted] in their camps in Russia strenuous efforts were made to persuade the prisoners to remain in Russia after their release and to take civilian jobs there. In some cases they were promised an opportunity to stay permanently and to bring their families from Germany, without, however, themselves returning to Germany first. A small number of prisoners have accepted such offers (six cases reported). Those who accepted were put through a very intensive political examination.

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2. Two of the cases mentioned are of electrical engineers who are said to be already at work with the Thiessen group.

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3. [redacted] in January 1947, at a large camp near Rumsiskes (about twenty-five kilometers east of Kaunas, Lithuania), Russian officers called for volunteers to fight against a band of partisans near Merkine. Of the twelve thousand prisoners, 180 volunteered, including sixty-two officers; they were put under the command of Russian officers. Before they reached Merkine, however, nearly half of the number had deserted, and after the first encounter with the partisans further desertions and a few casualties reduced the troop to forty-three men.

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[redacted] the partisans repulsed the attack.

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(Rumsiskes - approximately 57°50'N, 27°0'E.)

(Merkine - 54°11'N, 24°10'E)

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